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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 7,276,371
Issued: October 2, 2007
Application No. 10/725,952
Filed: December 1, 2003
Attorney Docket No.: 9442-41CT2

:DECISION ON REQUEST
: FOR RECONSIDERATION
: OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT
: AND
: NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE
: CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

This is a decision on the "REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT" and the "REQUEST FOR SUSPENSION OF 37 C.F.R. § 1.705(d) UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.183", both filed March 26, 2010, requesting suspension of the time limit for consideration of an application for patent term adjustment ("PTA").

This petition is hereby **DISMISSED**.

The petition for recalculation/reconsideration of the USPTO's PTA determination for U.S. Patent No. 7,276,371 is dismissed as untimely. On February 1, 2010, the USPTO published a Federal Register notice that, *inter alia*, announced a limited waiver of the two-month deadline for filing a petition for reconsideration of a PTA determination under 37 CFR sec. 1.705(d). See *Interim Procedure for Patentees to Request a Recalculation of the Patent Term Adjustment to Comply with the Federal Circuit Decision in Wyeth v. Kappos Regarding Overlapping Delay Provisions of 35 U.S.C. sec. 154(b)(2)(A)*, 75 Fed. Reg. 5043 (Feb. 1, 2010) (notice).

Specifically, patent owners were permitted to request recalculation of a patent's PTA in view of the Federal Circuit decision *Wyeth v. Kappos*, 591 F.3d 1364 (Fed. Cir. 2010) up to 180 days after the grant of the patent. The USPTO determined not to accept any requests for PTA recalculation initially filed more than 180 days after patent grant, however, in view of the statutory judicial-review provisions of 35 U.S.C. sec. 154(b)(4), which require that any civil action to challenge the USPTO's PTA determination be brought within 180 days of patent grant. The USPTO believes that the statutory 180-day period for seeking court review of the USPTO's PTA determinations, particularly in view of the six-year statute of limitations that otherwise is applicable for actions under the Administrative Procedure Act, indicates a congressional intent that PTA issues be resolved shortly after a patent issues. The USPTO does not consider it likely that

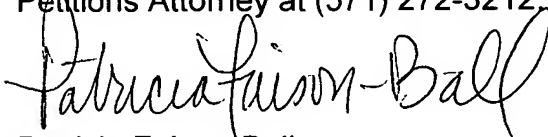
Congress created a scheme under which the time period to seek initial USPTO review of a PTA determination extends beyond the time period provided for a dissatisfied patentee to seek judicial review of the USPTO's PTA determination. Thus, the USPTO believes that the 180-day period in 35 U.S.C. sec. 154(b)(4) represents the outer limit on the USPTO's ability to conclude its PTA determination.

Subsequently, and prior to a decision on the petitions filed March 26, 2010, applicants filed a "REQUEST FOR ENTRY OF CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C §254 AND 37 C.F.R. §1.322" to correct the patent term. The request filed April 2, 2010 cannot be construed as a petition under 37 CFR 1.705(d) and the instant petition requesting a corrected patent term adjustment is not timely filed. As such, the petition is dismissed and the certificate of correction which issued May 18, 2010 was issued in error. In view thereof, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 467 days.

The Office will sua sponte issue a certificate of correction. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.322, the Office will not issue a certificate of correction without first providing assignee or patentee an opportunity to be heard. Accordingly, patentee is given one (1) month or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this decision to respond. No extensions of time will be granted under § 1.136.

The application is being forwarded to the Certificates of Branch for issuance of a certificate of correction. The Office will issue a certificate of correction indicating that the term of the above-identified patent is extended or adjusted by **four hundred sixty-seven (467)** days and supersedes all previously issued certificates of correction.

Telephone inquiries specific to this decision should be directed to the undersigned Petitions Attorney at (571) 272-3212.



Patricia Faison-Ball
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions

Enclosure: Copy of DRAFT Certificate of Correction

DRAFT
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT : 7,276,371 B2

DATED : October 2, 2007

INVENTOR(S) : William Bachovchin

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

On the cover page,

[*] Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 USC 154(b) by (772) days

Delete the phrase "by 772 days" and insert – by 467 days--